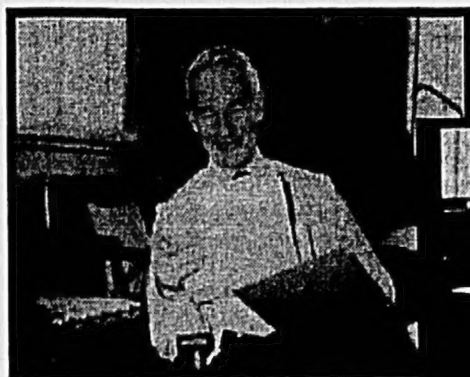


Monday, March 3, 1997



Once there was Johnston...

by Shane Thomas

Voices of student discontent have been loud since Principal Shapiro took control of McGill, but now that he is up for review the silence is deafening.

Dr. Bernard Shapiro, midway through his five year contract, is under review as principal of McGill University. The review committee, almost entirely composed of McGill staff with only one student representative, is examining whether or not to keep Shapiro as Principal.

Members of the committee are hesitant to release any submissions until the committee drafts their final report.



then came Shapiro...

Undergraduate VP University Affairs Don McGowan is not concerned about receiving "just a few phone calls" instead of written student submissions. As the only student representative on the review committee, he feels his voice alone is enough.

However, Chancellor Gretta Chambers, review committee chair, has been somewhat concerned about the low level of student interest shown thus far.



but will they renew his contract?

"There are not as many [student submissions] as I would like," said Chambers a week before the submission deadline. She said the committee had received "a few reports from graduate students" and none from undergraduates. Chambers' comment regarding

the low levels of student input is particularly disturbing considering the massive changes that have taken place and continue to unfold under the direction of Shapiro.

CHANGES ALREADY IN EFFECT

Shortly after his appointment as Principal, Shapiro presented a "discussion" paper entitled *Towards a New McGill*, outlining his interpretation of problems and solutions in the university. Key proposals of the paper included "highly selective admissions requirements", increased tuition fees in place of public funding, greater privatization, and requirements for each department to be

financially self-supporting (making smaller departments like Religious Studies vulnerable).

Students answered. Last year, reports submitted by the Post-Graduate Students' Society, the undergraduate Students' Society, the African Studies Committee and the Arts Undergraduate Society all called for alternatives to Shapiro's plan. As well, Shapiro established the McDonald task force to respond to *Towards a New McGill*. Unfortunately, the groups heard little official response from the administration.

Shapiro described the changes as "a rough sketch in need [of] substantial analysis and refinement." Nevertheless, recent changes such as significant in-

continued on page 3

Sit-ins across Ontario

by Rachel Furey and
Stu Clark

Ottawa (CUP)

CARLETON STUDENTS WIN A PARTIAL VICTORY

In a surprise response to the student occupation of his office, Carleton University president, Richard Van Loon, sided with the concerns of the student protesters. Van Loon agreed that new tuition hikes are threats to accessible university education.

This result contrasts the previous two weeks that saw angry student groups at three other Ontario universities take over their presidents' offices and all three groups gave up their occupations with no discernable gains.

But Carleton was different. Instead of denouncing the protesters — as the three other university presidents had done — Carleton president Richard Van Loon agreed to support them in writing.

In an open letter to Ontario's education minister John Snoblen, Van Loon wrote: "We must keep tuition fees at a level that will ensure both quality and accessibility of education. However, the re-

cent cuts to post-secondary education funding have severely threatened all Ontario universities' ability to fulfill this mandate."

Von Loon continued, and asked the government to increase post-secondary education spending to the average level of all Canadian provinces.

Currently, Ontario spends less per capita on its universities and colleges than any other province.

The letter, along with concessions on a series of other student demands was enough to end the occupation.

However, the students were not completely victorious as the university still intends to raise tuition by 10 per cent next year.

These protests, which caused students across Ontario to haul their sleeping bags to administration offices, were sparked by a February 5 government announcement that allowed universities to increase tuition fees by

up to 10 per cent.

Students at the University of Toronto began the trend when they took over the office of Robert Prichard on February 10.

Unlike his counterpart at Carleton, Prichard did not negotiate with students. Instead, he sent out a press release calling for deregulation of tuition fees so he could increase fees by even more than 10 per cent.

While the U of T protesters gave up after 97 hours, groups at York and the University of Guelph took up the cause and took over their presidents' offices. But, like the students at U of T, they finally

gave up amidst threats from university administrators.

While Van Loon disagreed with the student protesters regarding their request for a tuition freeze, he said that he shares their concerns on the direction Ontario's government is taking universities.

"We both strongly believe the government is close to destroying post-secondary education in this province," he said.

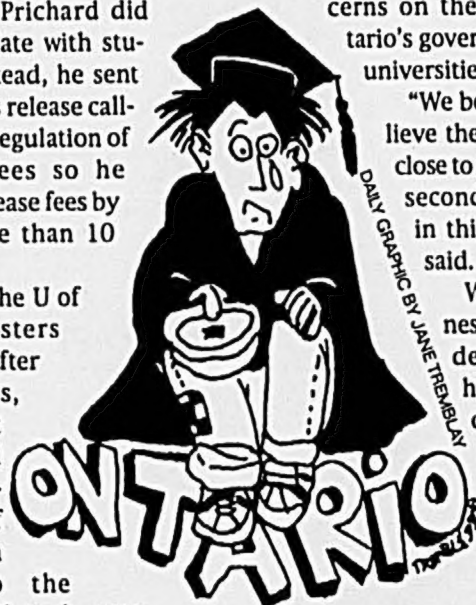
While his willingness to talk to students might win him friends on campus, Van Loon could find himself a very unpopular man the next time Ontario's university presidents gather together. The assorted presidents have been

among the loudest voices demanding universities be allowed to increase tuition fees to make up for cutbacks in government funding.

That's why students have been occupying their president's office instead of the provincial legislature, says Brad Lavigne of the Canadian Federation of Students. He adds it is important to remind students of the link between cuts to the federal and provincial budgets and the tuition increases, especially with a federal election only a few months away.

"These protests will help inject a level of militancy during the federal election," he said adding that students will be demanding more money for universities, solutions to the growing student debt problem and a job creation plan during the election campaign.

Meanwhile the protests on campus aren't over. Lavigne says a few more campuses are considering occupations, and there is talk of a province wide protest in March.



DAILY GRAPHIC BY JANE TREMBLAY

Inside: Bristling corporate conundrum at York
Ponder the vp interviews Marvel at Temagami tenacity

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• Volunteers needed for McGill Queer Pride Week March 10th-14th. Sign up with LBGTm, room 432. Info: 398-6822.

• The Pirates of Penzance presented by the Savoy Society of McGill. Shows run from March 6-8, 13-15, 19-21 at 20h. Matinee performances March 8th and 15th at 14h. Moyse Hall, Faculty of Arts bldg., 853 Sherbrooke St.W. Gen. Admission \$12, students/seniors \$8, \$10/\$6 for Matinee performances. For reservations: 398-6826.

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editorial offices:
3480 McTavish St., Montréal, QC, room B-03, H3A 1X9
business and advertising office:
3480 McTavish St., Montréal, QC, room B-17, H3A 1X9
email:
daily@generation.net

editorial:
(514)-398-6784
business/advertising:
(514)-398-6790
fax:
(514)-398-8318

business manager:
Marian Schrier
assistant business manager:
Jo-Anne Pickel
advertising management:
Lety Matteo, Boris Sbedov
advertising layout and design:
Mark Brooker

contributors:

Stephanie Balinsky, Lori Braun, Stu Clark, Megan Graves, Rachel Furey, Jessica Howard, Keri Kasuri, Jameela Jeeroburkban, Jessica Lim, Jessica Mann, Chris Scott, Jane Tremblay, Shane Thomas

co-ordinating editor:
Idella Sturino
co-ordinating news editor:
Zachary Schwartz
co-ordinating culture editor:
Kerlin Siu
news editors:
Andrea Mason, Mark Ratner
culture editors:
Heredith Cohen, Mike Cullen
features editor:
Sonia Verma

daily francais:
Marc-Antoine Godin,
Loïc Bernard
photo editors:

Lucy Atkinson, David Ryther
layout and design co-ordinators:
Netami Stuart, Ian Maber
office co-ordinator:
Andrea Cooke
project co-ordinator:
Mark Narron
information editor:
Vlad Nabok

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SHAPIRO UNDER REVIEW

...continued from page one

creases in administration fees, McGill's lobbying of the Québec government for higher tuition fees, and moves to integrate with Concordia were all suggested in *Towards a New McGill*.

THE HISTORY BEHIND THE MAN

Shapiro has a long and distinguished past as a professor, high level bureaucrat with the provincial Ontario governments of Peterson and Rae, and a post-secondary administrator. In the nineteen years since 1978 Shapiro has spent only two years working in a professorial role, and the rest serving in various high level administrative capacities.

Restructuring is nothing new for Shapiro. During his two years at the University of Toronto and while at McGill, he wrote restructuring reports for the educational systems in Nova Scotia and Manitoba. He has also written several

articles on reforming the policy framework for post-secondary education, or to what one book (in which Shapiro authored a chapter) referred to as the "knowledge economy."

Unfortunately some members of the committee to review the principal have never seen his resume. This lack of thoroughness on behalf of part of the committee, and the low levels of student input could set the stage for a uniformed report on whether Shapiro should be granted a contract extension.

The chair of the review committee closed the submission deadline last week, but she says that since no principal has been reviewed in this manner, the rules are somewhat open. Comments received early this month might be important in influencing the drafting of the report, since the report will not be finished until part way into March.

letters

Fingering the politicians, not student services

To the Daily

I am writing regarding the article "Pickpocketed by the Administration: Campus user fees on the rise across Canada"

(February 17, issue). The article states that Brad Lavigne, national chair of the Canadian Federation of Students, "says [that] the way for students to fight back against ancillary fee increases is to lobby their student unions to oppose any and all fee increases." The article goes on to quote Lavigne: "If [students vote] against these increases then they send a message to the government that even if you're going to build another new wing of a building or put in new equipment, we are drawing a line in the sand and saying, 'No more user-fee increases.'"

Mr. Lavigne's idea that we, as students, are sending the government a message by refusing to pay higher ancillary fees is misguided. The fact is that governments are

cutting budgets. Consequently, funding to universities for improved student services is being reduced. If we want improved services, such as better technology or longer library hours, the fact is that we will have to pay for them. The only message which we are sending the government by refusing to pay these fees, is that we are content to live with the existing level of services.

If we really want to send a message to the government that funding of universities should not be cut, we must make clear to the politicians that they will be held responsible for their destructive actions. We must make it known to the politicians that in the next election we will not vote to reelect a government which is not representing our interests. We will only make gains if we work within a system which the members of government understand, the democratic system.

Aaron Feinstein
Arts '91

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Student Services a burden

The proposed new Student Services Building stirs up trouble...

by Megan Graves

If McGill's graduate students are going to pay for a new Student Services building, their representatives want to ensure students get a good return on their investment.

The Powell Student Services Building is not an adequate facility but McGill students are hesitant over the \$4.8 million needed for a new one. Dean of Students Rosalie Jukier has already raised \$4.2 million from private donations.

The Powell Building is cramped, in poor physical condition and located away from the main activities on campus, according to Jukier.

The new building, which would be located on Dr. Penfield between Peel and McTavish, would accommodate all student services, including services for disabled students and the Chaplaincy, which are currently located elsewhere.

The new building would offer "a better organization of space, the ability to house all our services, ability to control line ups in hallways, physical linkage to the Shatner building, etc."

Students will be asked to pay \$20 a year for the next five years. This fee will allow the University to go ahead and start drawing up plans for the building. If not passed, "it will be impossible to go ahead at this stage," says Jukier. "Many years of fund-raising lie ahead otherwise."

However, students are weary of additional fees. McGill's Post-Graduate Students Society (PGSS) formulated a referendum question asking students to pay the \$20 annual fee in return for three additional seats on the Board of Governors and one additional seat on Senate, the two highest decision making bodies

at McGill.

Currently, students hold under 20 per cent of the seats on McGill's Senate. On the Board of Governors, students have only two voting seats.

Hugh Potter, of the PGSS, says that the students are not attacking the University — merely asking for a larger say in the direction of the University's policies and activities.

But in response to the PGSS referendum question, Jukier states that "from the University's standpoint, this is not the way to obtain increased representation and these conditions will not be taken any further."

Nonetheless, PGSS VP External Erin Runions states that the PGSS is only asking Jukier "to go to bat for us" concerning representation on the Board of Governors and Senate.

McGill University has a policy of asking for government aid for only one building at a time. The new music building is the University's top priority at the moment, although Jukier hastens to add that the project has received support from resources in Martlet House.

Student Services range from work study programs to the Chaplaincy, from internet workshops to International students advisors; and consequently are key resource for McGill's students.

Jukier insists that she is "under no illusion about the financial situation of students" but says that because McGill's donors don't want to support Student Services, students will have to help pay for it themselves.

"Buildings just aren't sexy," she says.

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Advertized education

Corporate support for on-line courses draws fire

by Stefani Balinsky

A proposal to solicit funding from alumni and the corporations they are involved with for courses taught over the internet has caused a flurry of attention for York University's Atkinson College.

Critics worry is that this policy compromises academic integrity and might threaten special interest courses.

"Once [universities] become a place where you buy and sell advertising space, there is no room for independent inquiry," says David Noble, a York Professor who specializes in the history of technology.

Noble worries about self censorship. He feels that a corporation will have an influence on the course without having to say anything.

"By encouraging, implicitly or explicitly for professors or departments to go hustle money, you design the course in anticipation of corporate funding — you ensure yourself more than a company would," he argues.

Associate Dean of Atkinson College, Peter Such disagrees with Noble's assessment.

"Courses will not be changed in any way, any contract will ensure that the donor will have no influence on the course," he maintains. Furthermore, he says, courses will be taught simultaneously by a professor on campus as well as on the internet, so course content will not be threatened.

For over 3 years now, Atkinson College, that specializes in part-time adult education has offered courses in many forms catering to

the needs of the student. People learn by lecture, correspondence using multi-media aids like video/audio tapes and on-line.

Such feels that the internet "is the next stage on a continuum to make education accessible to all." It is a step toward affordable education and a way "to get education out to ordinary people, so it will stop being an elite activity."

He envisions an environment that promotes a new learning theory; "The professor will be the architect for the course instead of the megaphone for the text."

Such points out that the professors are eager to put their courses on the web, because it will facilitate what the students and the professors want.

A recent fundraising letter sent out to alumni announced that for "a gift of \$10,000.... you or your corporation can become the official sponsor for the development and design of one of our new multi-media, high tech courses which will bear your name or company logo, for as long as that course, or a version of it, is offered by Atkinson."

Vice-President of Academic Affairs Michael Stevenson assures that 'official sponsorship' is nothing more than appropriate recognition of those who provide such funding, and that there is a protocol which provides complete protection for academic freedom and university autonomy.

David Noble calls the official position "nonsense." He says the students were never informed, and fears that a lot more will go on. "It is egregious because the courses are the guts of the university."

Sine MacKinnon, York University's Senior Adviser for Media Relations, likens the offer to a dedication in a book; for example, if it was psychology 101, the title would remain the same, but it would "simply indicate that the course gratefully acknowledges the support of donor XYZ."

The cost to go from nothing to a functional on-line course is \$50,000. Such assures that professors determine the content of the course, while Greenlight Communications designs the layout for free. "The \$10,000 will help defray the company's R&D costs and allow the professors the time to advise the programmers."

"The course is studying the students," Noble argues. He says Cultech is pedaling the Virtual U software, whose maker is the Telelearning Research Network (TRN) "officially describes their Virtual Field Trials as human subject experimentation." He argues that students are unaware of their position as research subjects.

There have been no contracts signed with any corporation to date. Noble fears the initiative will lead to the commodification of the university.

"I'm against the commercialization of university," agrees Peter Such, "I don't want corporations to influence the content."

A company may choose to support a course, but "it is a one shot thing," says Such. Once they sponsors contribute to the initial production of an on-line course, the course will remain unaffected even if the sponsor withdraws its support.

Dangerous Liaisons?

ARE UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS CANDIDATES COMMITTED TO WOMEN'S ISSUES?

by Jessica Howard

The Alley was crowded for this year's panel discussion on women's issues with candidates for next year's SSMU council executive.

Held on February 18, the purpose of the event was to "get candidates to tell their positions on certain issues, and to get people interested who wouldn't normally be," said panel moderator, Sara Mayo.

The spotlight was on candidates for VP University Affairs as that office is the one that is responsible for academic and equity issues.

The debate, featuring a panel of women representing various McGill clubs and organizations, helped clarify the candidates' attitudes towards women's issues. Those issues include a daycare

program for McGill Students and campus safety.

All three candidates for the position happen to be women: Lara Leigh-Wood, a U3 Political Science student, Tamana Kochar, a U2 Management student and Elisabeth Gomery, an Arts student.

The candidates were asked how they would prioritize academic versus equity issues.

Leigh-Wood responded, "I'm going to push for a physical harassment policy, and for professors to adopt gender-neutral policies on language." Later, she elaborated on this, saying, "both equity and academic issues are as important as each other, but this year, equity issues need to be concentrated on."

She expressed frustration that neither the ghetto safety audit,

nor the sexual assault policy has yet been implemented. She believes that, "a different policy for physical assault is necessary, because the things that the survivors go through are very different from sexual assault."

Gomery took the approach that academic and equity issues are equally important, but she is also specifically committed to putting the sexual harassment policy into action.

Tamana Kochar, on the other hand, was more academically oriented. She said, "I think that the main thing is to get everything done, and there are more academic than equity issues."

However, Kochar did say that women's issues will be addressed; "I will put more emphasis on equity issues than Don McGowan

KEEPING IT ACCESSIBLE

Candidates for vp external promise to fight cuts to education
by Mark Ratner

Increasing tuition fees and cut backs to education are perhaps the most pressing threats to our educational infrastructure.

As far as student government is concerned, these issues fall under the responsibility of the SSMU's vice-president external.

Two candidates are vying for this position: Lisa Phipps, former editor of a magazine called the Real Scene, and Keith Campbell, a U3 political science student.

Phipps says she sees the main role of vp external as being someone who "represents McGill students to the outside world."

For Phipps, a priority is the improvement of the national reputation of the University.

"We are losing prestige," she says, "in the last Maclean's survey, we were ranked third best in all of Canada."

Safety in the McGill student ghetto will be a focus for Phipps, who also plans on implementing a recycling effort in the area.

Campbell, who spent the last

Washington, sees value in increasing the number of internship positions available. Campbell would like to initiate a program where McGill alumni could provide positions to students. He says also that the Internet can be a valuable tool in helping students find positions.

"All the available internships could be listed on a web site where students could upload their resumes," he adds.

Both candidates place importance on the role that the Canadian Alliance for Students Association (CASA) can play in lobbying governments at both the provincial and federal levels to protect student interests. "CASA is ongoing," says Phipps, "it is the only representative students have on a national level."

A recent issue that falls under the jurisdiction of vp-external is the announcement made by Parti Québécois Education minister Pauline Marois regarding the amalgamation of Québec Universities. The PQ says that Québec schools will have to cut or merge programs available at other institutions in the province.

Phipps and Campbell both are wary of the idea.

"It's not the best solution, if they intend on forcing it through," says Campbell.

Phipps agrees saying, "each university has a completely different agenda, and a different set of standards."

Perhaps a more pressing concern for the next vp-external is a different Parti Québécois policy, that of differential tuition fees. The next academic year will see the implement-

tation of a policy that will force students from provinces other than Québec to pay considerably higher tuition fees than Québec residents.

Again, both candidates are in agreement in opposing this idea.

"In a nutshell," says Phipps, "I think it is discriminatory."

Phipps points out that through the lobbying powers of CASA, this law can be fought.

At the very least, Phipps says, "if differential fees are to be introduced, they should not be imposed on students who are currently enrolled in Québec schools."

Although he acknowledges the role that CASA can play in opposing differential fees, Campbell adds that legal means can be taken to protect students.

"The SSMU has a lawyer, and, if I'm elected, I will become involved in the case," he says.

Both candidates also agree that the deficit-cutting goals of both the provincial and provincial governments have hurt university students.

"[Provincial education Minister] Marois wants to cut payments to education rather than finding creative ways of funding education," says Phipps.

Phipps would like to see a situation where there is an increase in the involvement of the business world, so that corporations could help fund education.

"It would take the burden off students," she says.

Campbell wants to propose an income contingent loan system whereby the repayment of student loans would be based on income earnings after graduation. Thus, students who find higher paying jobs will, in effect be charged a higher tuition than those who are paid less.

"Australia, New Zealand and Sweden all have it," says Campbell. A major benefit of a program such as this would be that it would encourage students to study what they want, rather than just what makes the most financial sense.

Campbell maintains that "basically, I want to keep education accessible."



LISA PHIPPS



KEITH CAMPBELL

academic year as an intern working in the Canadian Embassy in

did"

One of the primary issues raised by the panel was the idea of a daycare program for students with children. All three candidates strongly supported the idea.

The issue is of particular concern to Leigh-Wood, who stated, "as a mother, I agree it should be made accessible and student-run, according to students' schedules."

She later added, "when I tried to get my child into McGill Daycare, I was treated very snobbily; it also costs \$650 per month, which is ridiculous."

Elisabeth Gomery underlined the importance of the issue, pointing out that "about 1,000 McGill students have children, so McGill should offer daycare from the new student services building."

Kochar also agreed that

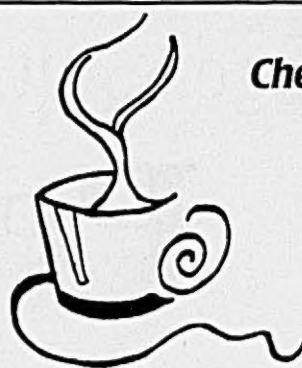
daycare must be a priority, saying that the program should be made accessible to everyone through subsidization.

The issue of safety was also touched upon by the panel, particularly in the libraries and the residences. Most candidates focused on the "peeping tom" problem in the McLennan-Redpath library bathrooms.

Leigh-Wood suggested a solution would be to put alarm buttons in the bathrooms, bigger doors on the stalls, and to have doors rather than curtains in residence showers.

Gomery added, "the school should make the bathroom doors in the libraries more evident." With respect to student residences, she admitted a lack of knowledge.

continued on page 6



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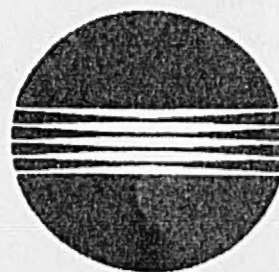
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How to manage SSMU's purse strings

Perspectives from

by Zachary Schwartz

Although the undergraduate Student's Society is a non-profit organization, it's nearly \$60 annual fee has helped SSMU's surplus grow to over half a million dollars. The Daily met with the vp finance candidates to hear their perspectives on how much say students have in their Society's priorities, within and beyond its financial portfolio.

Interview highlights

On the Financial Ethics Research Committee (FERC) which was mandated by student referendum last year to advise SSMU on the ethics behind its finances:

Adam Giambrone: "It's the first year and there has not been much cooperation, it has run into blocks from the executive. Contracts are not going to FERC. Yes, there's been confusion, but next year they'll know the procedure. I'm 100 per cent behind it. It's supposed to review every contract SSMU enters to ensure the company's activity is ethical. It has a broad mandate. The vp finance should inform FERC of any company with which they intend to enter into a contract. First FERC should examine the company. After the company is cleared, they must see the final contract, or at least a rough form of the contract, because in a lot of cases there are subcontractors." Karan Manhas: "There are problems with FERC due to reluctance of the financial committee to deal with them. It was constitutionally mandated this year and it's been shunned. I think if I'm going to deal with corpora-

tions I want FERC as an integral part of this [vp finance's] portfolio. I wouldn't want council associated with a corporation with dubious motives, for example Shell in Nigeria. A lot of onus is put on student government to provide leadership in that direction."

responsible corporations. FERC, I think has, a real value in saying 'Hey, wait a minute. This is the status quo but this isn't right. And we should do better than that.'

It became very much a pawn this year.... But ultimately I think FERC is something that is absolutely essential to how we run the Students' Society."

On boycotts:

Adam Giambrone: "SSMU has been reluctant in the past. Look at the ideologies of presidents in the past. The last boycott was Pepsi, and SSMU entered the boycott reluctantly. One boycott was the IGLC, which now has legitimacy alongside the [Black Student's Network] BSN and the LBGTM [Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay and Transgender Students of McGill]."

We have an obligation to take a leadership role.... We should be optimistic about our role in the world and with our collective spending power we have clout. We have an obligation to not support organizations which have a bad track record in the environment, labour issues and discrimination."

Karan Manhas: "It is a good approach. It increases awareness. Awareness never hurt anyone, unless it's false."

Duncan Reid: "It's a good approach, absolutely. We should use our power to enforce what students think is ethically and morally responsible behaviour.... Activism without power is nothing. If we use our power, we have a chance to make changes."

On SSMU's finances, and the over \$500,000 currently waiting in SSMU's capital reserve fund:

Adam Giambrone: "We're doing okay if everything stays the same. But with the letter of agreement between SSMU and McGill University up for negotiation, we have a \$400,000 liability if McGill makes us pay rent for the Shatner building. And enrollment is expected to decrease."

To offset that he plans, rather than increasing fees, "to increase revenue with businesses, then increase jobs and services."

"I think it's important to have reserve funds" he says, but it should be \$70,000 a year, not the \$150,000 a year we're putting away now. SSMU doesn't have money for computers for the sexual assault centre and the BSN, but spends \$12,000 for executives' travel expenses. What are our priorities? We should increase funding for clubs and services, and for special projects" and for renovat-

Karan Manhas: "The Society as a whole is doing fine. We've stabilized the money situation. Now we can increase our scope.... We can increase resources for clubs and computer labs. It's such a problem. Some services need their own like, the sexual assault centre."

He says the capital reserve fund is best used to hook up Shatner to the new Student Services building that will be built. "It's best to use it to redo the shape of Shatner, as Shatner becomes more unbearable, without asking students to pay. The money should stay until it can do a significant amount of change."

Duncan Reid: "Student fees are by and large the biggest source of our revenue. I would love to be able to spend more money next year, I think everyone has good reasons for [wanting] more money but there looks like there might be as much as a five per cent decrease in enrollment next year which is a hit of \$60,000 to SSMU revenue. We are a \$2.3 million budgeting non-profit corporation, but \$60,000 is still a large sum of money. Especially with what we're heading into now with the letter of agreement with McGill, we could be on the hook for the upkeep cost of Shatner, presently to the tune of \$400,000 to \$500,000 per year. That's why we started the capital reserve fund, and I think it would be a little imprudent to dip into it now. . . ."

On under-represented groups:

Adam Giambrone: "There are under-represented groups like francophones and LBG [lesbian, bisexual and gay]. . . . Our concern is that they



candidate Manhas



candidate Reid

ing Shatner, a key point in his plan to bring more business into Shatner.

Candidates share life experience

continued from page 5

"I never lived in residence, but basically safety has to be increased," she said.

Kochar suggested that all residences should have 24 hour security guards like RVC, and agreed that putting signs in the bathrooms is not enough.

ARE WOMEN A SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP?

Both Leigh-Wood and Gomery

expressed the belief that women's issues should be everyone's issues. Leigh-Wood qualified her statement and said, "women need to exist as an interest group because they have power in that group, and they can exert influence on relevant issues... it is sad that it needs to exist, but it does."

Kochar took a different approach to the question. She said women should be considered a special interest group as long as it is defined as "a group working to

promote interests not discriminatory to other social groups." Kochar demonstrated an ambivalent attitude toward the feminist movement, when she said that simply because some women consider themselves to be members of a special interest group, "it does not mean they are feminist or anything."

Leigh-Wood later said that she is a feminist, and that her concern over women's issues was part of her motivation to run for the po-

sition.

"As a mother and as a woman, from my general life experience, I feel that there is a lot that I could do. Having not been involved in politics at all, I feel at an advantage, because I come from the student perspective, I don't come with baggage, or a political party," said Leigh-Wood.

Gomery also said that much of her awareness of women's issues has come from her experience as a woman. She was also influenced

by reading feminist literature, the fact that she had a working mother as a role model.

Although Kochar supports women's causes, she hesitated to define herself as a feminist, because, as she said, "feminists often express views that put men down." Her reason for entering the race was because, "I like to be involved in what's going on around me, I knew I could do a good job at it."

Status quo from SSMU vp internal hopefuls in the candidates

do have a unique point of view that is generally under-represented. [SSMU] has set up task forces that identify problems. Those are important. . . . Now we need the legislative body. We need these groups to be part of the decision making process and implementation. It's the difference between lip service and action. I see this as affecting all of council. It's all of the

For all their talk of approachability and changing the Students' Society to better reflect the needs of students, it looks like both candidates for the position of vp internal are campaigning on working with the status quo.

Both pledge to do their best for the clubs and services under SSMU's control, but, in interviews with the Daily, they stress the need to continue to improve large scale activities like Frosh. Neither addressed the question of SSMU's priorities — priorities which currently seem to leave clubs and services begging SSMU council for resources.

The SSMU blood drive also falls under the vp internal's portfolio. While both candidates strongly agreed that the Canadian Red Cross' (CRC) questionnaire is discriminatory, and pledged to head up talks with the CRC to reach a compromise, they offered different interpretations. Aubin seemed less tolerant of protests during the blood drive while Srivastava stressed the importance of education campaigns.

Interview highlights

What is your interpretation of the Red Cross pulling out this year, and how will you approach the blood drive next year?

Nishi Aubin: "I think that it's a shame what happened this year. . . . I think that too much effort, too much student effort, volunteers and time was put into that just to chuck it away. . . . Instead of using guerrilla tactics with the Red Cross we need to work together. . . ."

This year [the blood drive] is going to come back and together, with the Red Cross, we can sit down and before it happens, work out an agreement, a compromise, that will make a situation ideal so that these kind of events don't happen again. . . . The right time to do so is not in the middle of the blood drive when tensions are high and when people have put a thousand hours into a project only to see people give them no respect and say . . . 'We're going to create such a disturbance that the Red Cross is going to leave.' I think that is not appropriate. The appropriate time is to sit down before, is to lobby them way before. . . . because we can't have people running around like chickens during the blood drive spouting their concerns."

One criticism of SSMU is that it's just parties. It's wonderful that we have Frosh and Four Floors, but why are these events important? How do they improve the lives of students? What is so important about anything in the vp internal's portfolio that anyone should even care?

Nishi Aubin: "I want to use some of the huge profits that these activities make and bring it back to the students. I was thinking that we could have maybe a committee or a review board that would analyze and look at clubs' demands. . . . Use that money and funnel it back to the students. I have been told that activities that do run a profit go to subsidize the activities that don't bring in money. The Students' Society is doing fine with one [Four Floors] a semester. Why couldn't we throw

Sarvesh Srivastava: "The key was miscommunication: the Red Cross thought one thing and the students thought something else. . . . The CRC thought it would be a huge media blitz. . . . and they didn't want to deal with it. Chris Carter was just going to try to give blood and was going to leave and that was it. The Red Cross didn't understand that and as a result of this miscommunication they left. . . ."

"The question is discriminatory. The concerns people have about the question are 100 per cent valid — the questionnaire should change. We should talk, but it's a slow and long process. You have to do some abrasive actions: that's when things get done."

I think if you talk. . . . you can work out a compromise where you have a blood drive and both sides are happy. We should educate each other — the CRC and students — and just talk and see what we can do in terms of changing the question. . . ."

Sarvesh Srivastava: "That's one of the largest complaints: nobody knows what SSMU does for people. . . . One thing people want is for them to have their ideas implemented. They want [SSMU to be] more approachable. . . ."

"Obviously they [SSMU events] are not ground-breaking: Four Floors is not going to change anybody's life. It's not something that's supposed to be in the foreground of a personal life, it's supposed to be a background, supportive role. People should have

two, and take that money and give it to clubs and give it to organizations that are deserving of it and that need it?"



candidate Aubin

Because McGill's student body is so diverse, making sure that you can fill the needs of different groups is difficult. How will you make SSMU activities more inclusive?

Nishi Aubin: "I think that you can. For example, last year when we had the Doughboys concert during welcome week, that brought out a group of McGill students that I had never seen. I think that you can meet the demand and cater to almost every group of McGill students by having different activities. We can have a concert series, we'll have lecture series, you can have different awareness weeks for francophones, financial awareness week, etc. You can have different activities and draw, not just impose, but ask different groups 'What would you like to see? What would you like to see done this year that is different from last year? Do you feel that your group is being fairly represented, that your needs are being met?'"

their academics, they should have one or two major extracurricular activities that they get involved with, and that should keep them busy. And every now and then when they need a breather, we [SSMU] should put on an event. It's false to think I'm going to enlighten people through these events. I mean they're parties. It's a supportive role, complementing their life."

Sarvesh Srivastava: "I think it all goes back to SSMU approachability. There's no way I can know what everybody wants. It is about having ideas, but I think it's more

come up to you and say 'We want this, we want to do this.' If you make it approachable, I think that's key."



candidate Srivastava

How much power does the executive committee have?

Nishi Aubin: "The executive committee has as much power as its unity does. . . . If you implement the wishes of council, if you work together well, it can have great power. If you see disharmony and personal vendettas and people just caring about me me, I think that it can be a very destructive power. The great thing about the executive is that they can be held accountable in council — that council members can question what is being done by an executive. And that is extremely important. It holds people in check, it's a checks and balances system."

Sarvesh Srivastava: "The executive committee runs the day to day operations of SSMU and I think they should show some leadership, a sense of guidance. . . . but they shouldn't have the power to say 'This is what I say, this is what goes.' The [SSMU] Council represents the student body, while the executive committee maintains the day to day operations. If the executive does have a vote, they should hold that vote sacred, and consult with the people that did elect them. That's why we should have forums, discussion, publicity, and get feedback [from students]. It's their vote that the executive have. . . ."

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Holding Ground

Earthroots fights on against clearcutting in Temagami

by Chris Scott

Sitting in the Toronto office of Earthroots, Dan McDermott is too busy to seem defeated. The walls are papered with black and white photos of young protesters held in awkward positions by solemn police; the shelves sag with campaign literature. As we talk, staff members hurry in and out, preparing for the next day's public workshop on civil disobedience.

When members of the environmental group broke camp late last November under heavy snow, they had spent nearly three months attempting to save the last patches of an ecosystem that had once spanned half a continent. Protesters had suffered 62 arrests in a series of non-stop blockades, lock-ons and tree-sits designed to halt the logging of more than three square kilometres of virgin pine surrounding Owain Lake, near the town of Temagami, Ontario.

That forest is now gone.

But as activists gear up for further acts of resistance, and Ontario provincial premier Mike Harris' Conservative government prepares to release another cutting permit this spring, it is clear that the battle for Temagami's Old Growth is far from over.

LOGGING THE ECOSYSTEM

Temagami sits at the Northern fringe of a once vast Great-Lakes-St. Lawrence ecosystem which spanned from the Atlantic ocean to the edge of the prairies, stretching as far south as Georgia.

The area immediately surrounding the town of Temagami is dotted with lakes and rock and is dominated by red and white pine. The ecosystem has been exploited for its old growth trees and is also home to various endangered animal species including the peregrine falcon, bald eagle and eastern cougar.



Since the earliest European expeditions, the pines have been heavily logged to produce everything from shipmasts to paper.

Logging in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence has been so widespread that ecologist Dr. Peter Quinby estimated in a 1996 report that old growth white pine now covers less than one per cent of its historical range. The forests around Temagami, along with a few stands in the Algoma Highlands, now constitute some of the last remaining areas where old growth red or white pine exists at all.

Historically, both government and industry have justified logging, claiming clearcut lands could be replanted with more profitable tree species such as jackpine, or otherwise allowed to regenerate.

Today, Ontario Ministry of

Natural Resources spokesperson Brian Blomme asserts the province's decision to permit logging near Temagami is justified by the fact that the forest will eventually grow back.

But McDermott sharply disagrees. "What we're really talking about is the age of the ecosystem, not the age of the trees," he cautions.

McDermott points out that tree planting strategies fail to recognize the irreplaceable nature of the entire ecosystem.

HISTORY OF BLOCKADES

Against this backdrop, issuing logging rights on Temagami land has been hotly contested in the past. A First Nation blockade of Red Squirrel logging road occurred in 1988. While not all of



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Temagami - continued
the local Teme-Augami Anishnabi support full protection of old growth pine, they are unanimous in condemning outside companies for unauthorized logging on their unceded land. Last fall, some native activists joined the Earthroots camp, while others set up an independent native blockade.

Ironically, it was then provincial NDP leader Bob Rae, arrested at a 1989 blockade, who ultimately failed to save Temagami's ecosystem once he was elected premier in 1990. Rae placed a four year moratorium on old growth logging in the area, but referred future logging issues to a Comprehensive Planning Council largely comprised of industry representatives. This council released its report last April, which called for limited additions to previous protection policies.

The Harris government failed to implement even those recommendations.

Instead, half of the area's identified old growth pine was opened for mining or logging in a June 28 announcement which galvanized opposition.

Harris also canceled investigations commissioned by Rae to determine how logging policy would affect the local economy.

The first cutting permit, for the Owain Lake stand, was granted to Goulard Lumber, an out-of-town company which had made substantial contributions to Harris' 1995 election campaign.

According to McDermott, direct action by protesters has managed to slow Goulard Lumber considerably. Logging on the 3.2 square kilometre cutblock was completed two months behind schedule, near the end of February.

An adjacent cutblock, similar in size is set to be approved for logging in June. And Earthroots will be ready.

"What you're going to see in 1997 is deja vu," McDermott confirms. He adds that the group is now recruiting for a summer training camp in July and August to be followed by blockades as soon as necessary — most likely in September.

He concedes that Ontario environmentalists face a tough task, confronted by a sharply pro-corporate government, coupled with traditionally lax environmental legislation. Ontario, for example, has no absolute legal limit to the size of a clearcut.

Despite these obstacles, McDermott believes the 800 activists who passed through last year's camp did have an impact in terms of rallying public support. A recent poll conducted by Oracle Research in Sudbury reports that 90 per cent of Ontarians support the protection of all surviving old growth pine which stands in the province.

As well, a late fall session of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, a United Nations body in Montréal, tabled a motion calling for full protection of Temagami's old growth. The motion was passed unanimously by all participating governments, with one abstention — Canada.

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The Post Graduate Students' Society

Annual General Meeting

WEDNESDAY MARCH 5, 1997
6:00 p.m.

Thomson House, 3650 McTavish Street

A light meal will be served

The Agenda of the Annual General Meeting will include:

- End-of-year Reports of the PGSS Executive
- Discussion of McGill Budget and plan of action
 - Question Period

Meet the Election Candidates
Discuss Referenda Questions

Council Meeting will follow at 6:30 p.m.

Monday, March 3

7:30 Screening: Mi Vida Loca
A film about young latina gang members in LA.
Cultural Studies screening room, 3476 Peel St.

Tuesday, March 4

5:00 Feminism and Sex Work
A lecture given by Karen Herland, director of STELLA (sex workers' rights organization)
Shatner 425

7:30 Screening: Fat Chance in a Thin World
A documentary on weight issues and eating disorders.
Cultural Studies screening room, 3476 Peel St.

Wednesday, March 5

12:00 Brown bag lunch
Men and women, bring your lunches for a discussion on gender issues. (Men, this is your big chance to see the Women's Union! Come and check it out!)
McGill Women's Union, Shatner 423

7:00 Sex with Sue (McGarvie)
A talk on sexual health issues for women, followed by a question-and-answer period.
Shatner 425

Thursday, March 6

5:30 Empowering Women in Their Health
An informal workshop for simple self-diagnosis and curative techniques to help women gain greater control over their health.
McGill Women's Union, Shatner 423

8:00 Open Mike Night
Women, come and flex your voices! Sign up at 7:30. Featuring Anurima Banerji and Marni Levitt.
Thomson House ballroom, second floor, 3650 McTavish

Friday, March 7

6:00 Feminist Networking Wine and Cheese
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Documentation disponible également en français

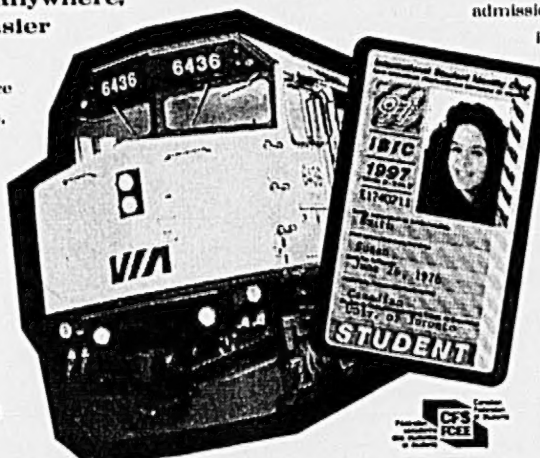
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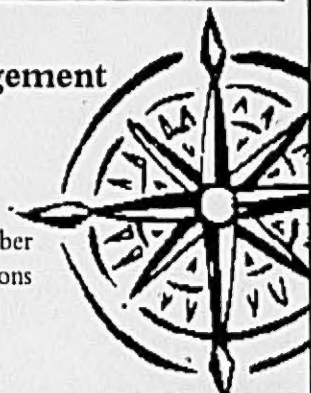
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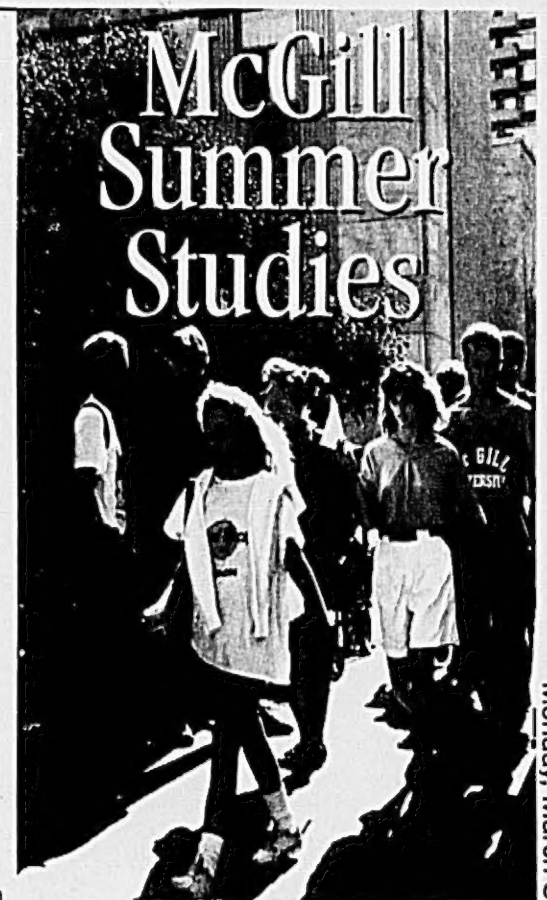
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pure chaos photo contest



You could win up to \$2000 and
have your photo used in a Labatt Ice
campaign.

What is a "pure chaos" photo?

It's a photo of a situation, scene or object that is unusual,
absurd, strange or far-fetched.

"Pure chaos" is everything bizarre that surrounds us.
Anything that is absurd or anti-conformist, and therefore
defies reason. It may shock, seduce, inspire reflection, even
make us laugh, but above all, it must surprise and amaze us.

Selection criteria:	• "Pure chaos" sense	50%
	• Originality	30%
	• Overall quality of photo	10%
	• Good taste	10%

Computer-enhanced photomontages are excluded from the
contest.

How to participate.

Fill out entry form. Put your photo, negative (very impor-
tant) and entry form in an envelope marked "Pure chaos photo
contest" and bring it to the university locale specified on the
contest poster by March 21, 1997.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____ Age: _____

University: _____

Faculty: _____

Participants must be 18 or over. The negative must
be included with the photo or the photo will be
discarded. First prize: \$2000; second prize: \$1000;
third prize: \$500; fourth prize: \$500; and fifth prize:
\$500. Contest ends March 21, 1997. Contest rules
are available at the university information centre
as well as at PNMD Communication inc., 1610, rue
St-Catherine Ouest, bureau 500, Montréal (Québec)
H3H 2S2.



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